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Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency Situational Awareness Statement (SAS)



Date: September 2, 2010

Time: 9:00 p.m.

HURRICANE EARL – SAS #11

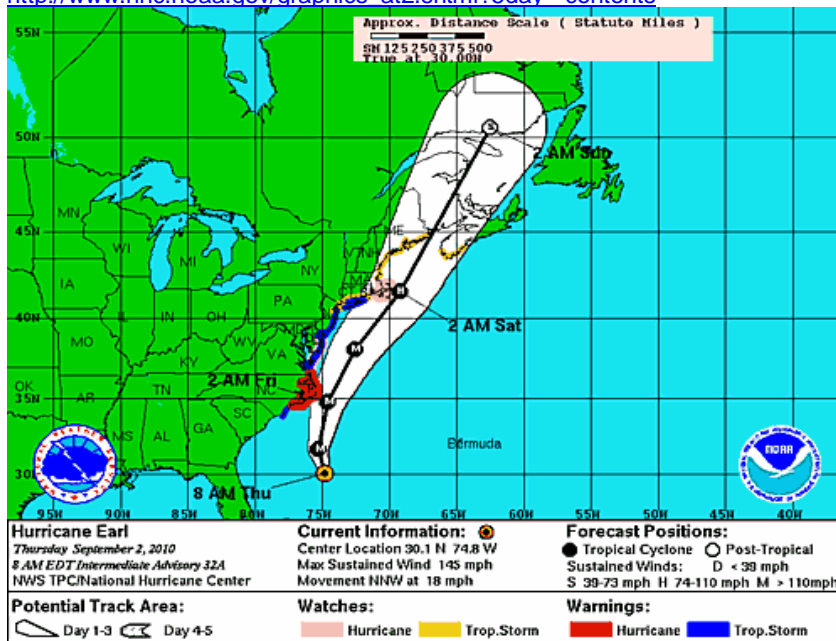
NWS reports that Hurricane Earl is now a Category 4 hurricane. Earl currently has maximum sustained winds of 145mph. Its current location is near 30.1N, 74.8W, moving NNW at 18mph. Earl's projected path now brings it approximately 22 miles SE of Nantucket late Friday into early Saturday morning potentially as a Category 3 storm. On this track (note: the margin for error can be 200 miles), the impacts remain high surf and rip currents, with expected issues for swimmers and boaters, starting today and going through Saturday. 10-20' seas are expected left of the eye, with 30-40'+ seas right of the eye as it passes our area. Expect rainfall throughout the day on Friday (heaviest between noon & midnight) of 2-4" are expected throughout the eastern 1/3 of MA. There will also be a yet-to-be-determined axis of 4-8" that could fall in that region. Urban street, poor drainage area and small stream flooding is possible. This is an issue for campgrounds and low-lying areas. There may also be the potential of minor/moderate flooding in a number of rivers on Saturday/Sunday. Presently, Earl expects to pack hurricane force winds on the Cape and Islands. Tropical storm force winds may reach interior SE MA. Tree damage and power losses may be an issue. Storm surge could be an issue with the Friday 7-8:00 p.m. high tide on Nantucket & Martha Vineyard. A more westerly track will obviously have greater impacts statewide.

Communities are encouraged to continue to go through their operational checklists.

MEMA is maintaining a 'Partial Activation' of the SEOC with key Emergency Support Function (ESF) agencies and organizations present today from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. A Full Activation will begin on Friday (9/3) at 7:00a.m.

National Hurricane Center 5-day forecast cone map:

http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/graphics_at2.shtml?5day - contents



HURRICANE EARL INTERMEDIATE ADVISORY NUMBER 32A

NWS TPC/NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL

...INTENSE HURRICANE EARL CONTINUES ON A NORTH-NORTHWESTWARD TRACK...EXPECTED TO PASS NEAR THE OUTER BANKS TONIGHT..

SUMMARY OF 800 AM EDT (1200 UTC) INFORMATION

LOCATION...30.1N 74.8W

ABOUT 355 MI (575 KMS) OF CAPE HATTERAS NORTH CAROLINA

ABOUT 820 MI (1315 KM) SSW OF NANTUCKET **MASSACHUSETTS**

MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS...145 MPH (230 KM/HR)

PRESENT MOVEMENT...NNW OR 330 DEGREES AT 18 MPH (30 KM/HR)

MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE...932 MB...27.52 INCHES

WATCHES AND WARNINGS

SUMMARY OF WATCHES AND WARNINGS IN EFFECT...

A HURRICANE WARNING IS IN EFFECT FOR...

* BOGUE INLET NORTH CAROLINA NORTHEASTWARD TO THE NORTH CAROLINA/VIRGINIA BORDER INCLUDING THE PAMLICO AND ALBEMARLE SOUNDS.

A HURRICANE WATCH IS IN EFFECT FOR...

* NORTH OF THE NORTH CAROLINA/VIRGINIA BORDER TO CAPE HENLOPEN DELAWARE.

* WESTPORT TO PLYMOUTH **MASSACHUSETTS**...INCLUDING MARTHAS VINEYARD AND NANTUCKET.

A TROPICAL STORM WARNING IS IN EFFECT FOR...

* CAPE FEAR TO WEST OF BOGUE INLET NORTH CAROLINA.

* NORTH OF THE NORTH CAROLINA/VIRGINIA BORDER TO SANDY HOOK NEW JERSEY...INCLUDING DELAWARE BAY SOUTH OF SLAUGHTER BEACH AND THE CHESAPEAKE BAY SOUTH OF NEW POINT COMFORT.

* THE COAST OF LONG ISLAND NEW YORK FROM FIRE ISLAND INLET NORTHWARD AND EASTWARD TO PORT JEFFERSON HARBOR.

A TROPICAL STORM WATCH IS IN EFFECT FOR...

* SANDY HOOK NEW JERSEY TO WOODS HOLE **MASSACHUSETTS**...INCLUDING BLOCK ISLAND AND LONG ISLAND SOUND.

* THE COAST OF LONG ISLAND NEW YORK WEST OF FIRE ISLAND INLET AND PORT JEFFERSON HARBOR.

* NORTH OF PLYMOUTH **MASSACHUSETTS** TO EASTPORT MAINE.

* THE COAST OF NOVA SCOTIA FROM PORT MAITLAND TO MEDWAY HARBOUR.

FOR STORM INFORMATION SPECIFIC TO YOUR AREA IN THE UNITED STATES... INCLUDING POSSIBLE INLAND WATCHES AND WARNINGS...PLEASE MONITOR PRODUCTS ISSUED BY YOUR LOCAL NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST OFFICE. FOR STORM INFORMATION SPECIFIC TO YOUR AREA OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES...PLEASE MONITOR PRODUCTS ISSUED BY YOUR NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE.

DISCUSSION AND 48-HOUR OUTLOOK

AT 800 AM EDT (1200 UTC) THE EYE OF HURRICANE EARL WAS LOCATED NEAR LATITUDE 30.1 NORTH...LONGITUDE 74.8 WEST. EARL IS MOVING TOWARD THE NORTH-NORTHWEST NEAR 18 MPH (30 KM/HR) BUT A TURN TOWARD THE NORTH IS EXPECTED SOON. A TURN TOWARD THE NORTH-NORTHEAST AND AN INCREASE IN FORWARD SPEED IS EXPECTED ON FRIDAY. ON THE FORECAST TRACK...THE CENTER OF EARL

WILL PASS NEAR THE NORTH CAROLINA OUTER BANKS TONIGHT...AND BE VERY NEAR SOUTHEASTERN NEW ENGLAND FRIDAY NIGHT.

MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS REMAIN NEAR 145 MPH (230 KM/HR) WITH HIGHER GUSTS. EARL IS A CATEGORY FOUR HURRICANE ON THE SAFFIR-SIMPSON HURRICANE WIND SCALE. A GRADUAL WEAKENING IS EXPECTED TO START LATER TODAY ...BUT EARL IS EXPECTED TO BE A MAJOR HURRICANE WHEN IT PASSES NEAR THE OUTER BANKS.

HURRICANE-FORCE WINDS EXTEND OUTWARD UP TO 90 MILES (150 KM) FROM THE CENTER... AND TROPICAL-STORM-FORCE WINDS EXTEND OUTWARD UP TO 230 MILES (370 KM).

THE MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE ESTIMATED FROM THE HURRICANE HUNTER DATA IS 932 MB...27.52 INCHES.

HAZARDS AFFECTING LAND

WINDS...TROPICAL-STORM-FORCE WINDS ARE EXPECTED TO REACH THE NORTH CAROLINA COAST WITHIN THE WARNING AREA BY THIS AFTERNOON. EVEN IF THE CENTER OF EARL REMAINS OFFSHORE...HURRICANE FORCE WINDS ARE EXPECTED TO OCCUR ON THE OUTER BANKS BY THURSDAY NIGHT. TROPICAL-STORM-FORCE WINDS WILL LIKELY REACH THE COAST FROM VIRGINIA NORTHWARD TO NEW JERSEY BY LATE THURSDAY NIGHT OR EARLY FRIDAY.

STORM SURGE...A DANGEROUS STORM SURGE WILL RAISE WATER LEVELS BY AS MUCH AS 3 TO 5 FEET ABOVE GROUND LEVEL WITHIN THE HURRICANE WARNING AREA AND THE LOWER CHESAPEAKE BAY. ELSEWHERE WITHIN THE TROPICAL STORM WARNING AREA...STORM SURGE WILL RAISE WATER LEVELS BY AS MUCH AS 1 TO 3 FEET ABOVE GROUND LEVEL. NEAR THE COAST...THE SURGE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY LARGE AND DESTRUCTIVE WAVES.

RAINFALL...ACCUMULATIONS OF 2 TO 4 INCHES...WITH ISOLATED MAXIMUM AMOUNTS OF 6 INCHES...ARE EXPECTED OVER PORTIONS OF EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA INCLUDING THE OUTER BANKS. ACCUMULATIONS OF 1 TO 2 INCHES ARE POSSIBLE FARTHER TO THE NORTH ALONG THE IMMEDIATE MID-ATLANTIC COAST.

SURF...LARGE SWELLS FROM EARL WILL CONTINUE TO AFFECT THE BAHAMAS AND THE EAST COAST OF THE UNITED STATES THROUGH FRIDAY. THESE SWELLS WILL LIKELY CAUSE DANGEROUS SURF CONDITIONS AND RIP CURRENTS.

MEMA is continuing to monitor other tropical storm activity in the Atlantic ... storms Fiona and Gaston.

For additional information:

National Hurricane Center Website at www.nhc.noaa.gov

National Weather Service – Taunton at www.weather.gov/boston

National Weather Service – Albany, NY at www.weather.gov/albany

Mass211 at www.mass211.org

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency at www.mass.gov/mema

Federal Emergency Management Agency at www.fema.gov

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